



TENNESSEE WEEKLY  
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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TENNESSEE COTTON HARVEST NEARS COMPLETION

This past week, cotton growers in the Volunteer State began putting the finishing touches on this year’s crop. As of Sunday, harvest was running over three weeks ahead of normal and on pace to have the earliest completion date on record. Dry conditions during the month of October allowed growers to make excellent progress, but yields have been highly variable. Those finished with harvest are now turning their attention to preparing fields for next year. Temperatures throughout the State averaged 10 to 13 degrees above normal last week, but conditions remained dry with only scattered showers reported. The lack of rain continued to take a toll on pastures which are currently rated in mostly very poor-to-poor condition. Many livestock producers are feeding hay and some are having to haul water to their herds. Despite the current problems, the majority of the State’s cattle herd is rated in fair-to-good condition. Wheat growers across the State are also reporting problems due to the lack of rain. Some areas reported that stands are emerging unevenly and many producers continue to delay additional seedings until moisture arrives. At week’s end, slightly over half of the intended acreage had been seeded. Soybean harvest continued at a brisk pace last week with an additional 18 percent completed. There were seven days considered suitable for field work this past week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 40 percent very short, 48 percent short, and 12 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 43 percent very short, 46 percent short, and 11 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS: Through October 29, 2000

CROP CONDITION: On October 27, 2000

Crop	This Week	Last Week	1999	Five Year Avg.	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	Percent					Percent				
Soybeans - Harvested	72	54	72	52	Pastures	31	30	30	9	0
Cotton - Harvested	96	89	94	79	Cattle	3	10	46	38	3
Burley - Stripped	46	37	38	40						
Winter Wheat - Seeded	54	40	55	58						
Winter Wheat - Emerged	19	9	N/A	N/A						

**SOYBEANS:** Most growers have finished harvesting their full season varieties and are now turning their attention to their double crop acreage. Some areas, however, are reporting that due to the earlier freeze, plants have fallen over and harvest has become more difficult. Even though overall yields are projected to be better than last year, double crop yields have been disappointing due to the hot, dry conditions of August.

**TOBACCO:** Stripping activities have been slowed recently due to the lack of rain. Growers only stripped an additional 9 percent of the crop last week, but overall, progress is still ahead of last year and the five-year average.

**COTTON:** Harvest is rapidly grinding to a halt throughout the State and most growers will try to finish this week. Yields have been highly variable across the State this year due to the late summer dry spell.

**WINTER WHEAT:** The newly seeded wheat crop is in desperate need of moisture to ensure proper germination. Seeding progress is only slightly behind the five-year average at this time, but many farmers have delayed planting until rain arrives. As of Sunday, 19 percent of the acreage had emerged.

**PASTURES & HAY:** The dry weather continues to lead to a deterioration of the State’s pastures. At this time, only 9 percent of the State’s acreage is considered in good condition, with the majority falling within the very poor-to-poor category. The lack of moisture has also led to poor emergence of newly seeded fall forage crops.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 10/29/00 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 10/29/00				Current Week	Rain	Current Since	Departure From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	10/29/00	Days	April 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	88	53	70	+14	0.00	0	18.89	-9.33	2813	+357
Bristol	78	37	63	+11	0.02	1	22.03	-1.80	1780	+103
Brownsville_TN	85	56	70	+14	0.00	0	21.27	-6.80	2864	+699
Chattanooga	84	54	69	+13	0.44	1	26.84	-0.82	2805	+433
Clarksville_Sew	86	50	69	+15	0.00	0	28.79	+1.79	2651	+454
Cookeville	83	43	65	+12	0.00	0	25.67	-5.43	2007	+659
Covington	86	57	71	+15	0.00	0	21.32	-6.08	2912	+408
Crossville_AP	78	46	64	+13	0.01	1	27.21	-2.81	1871	+340
Dickson_AG	83	50	67	+13	0.07	1	21.31	-7.98	2222	-52
Dover_1W	83	51	68	+15	0.00	0	27.42	-1.10	2365	+411
Dyersburg	84	54	69	+12	0.00	0	23.94	-3.29	2799	+137
Erwin_1W	79	43	64	+14	0.00	0	25.06	-4.38	1753	-232
Huntingdon_Wate	84	52	69	+15	0.00	0	22.32	-6.97	2203	+138
Jackson_AG	85	53	70	+15	0.01	1	21.15	-7.54	2704	+305
Kingston_AG	81	48	66	+15	0.01	1	25.27	-6.03	2328	+539
Knoxville_AP	79	52	67	+13	0.00	0	27.33	+2.04	2379	+351
Lewisburg	84	49	67	+14	0.00	0	27.31	-2.60	2197	+162
Lexington_TN	85	52	69	+13	0.00	0	23.06	-4.73	2646	+1209
Linden	85	49	67	+14	0.00	0	21.69	-7.65	2360	+302
Martin	85	53	69	+14	0.00	0	25.50	-3.90	2569	+286
Mc_Minnville_Tn	82	48	66	+11	0.00	0	24.41	-4.58	2246	-312
Memphis_AG	87	56	71	+13	0.00	0	19.92	-7.55	2990	-3
Milan	86	47	67	+13	0.00	0	22.81	-7.24	2252	+26
Murfreesboro_5N	84	48	68	+14	0.00	0	28.07	-1.54	2296	-264
Nashville	85	50	70	+14	0.00	0	21.88	-4.20	2720	+296
Newcomb	82	43	63	+13	0.06	1	22.99	-8.27	1808	+375
Oneida	79	44	64	+14	0.11	1	23.84	-7.42	1724	-447
Pikeville	82	45	65	+10	0.37	2	22.33	-5.57	2212	+239
Portland_TN	84	48	69	+16	0.00	0	23.12	-5.01	2340	+351
Pulaski_Water_P	83	51	67	+11	0.13	1	27.44	-1.65	2394	-2
Savannah_6SW	89	52	71	+14	0.00	0	21.77	-8.01	2966	+840
Sparta_TN	83	42	66	+13	0.00	0	29.93	-0.27	2176	+456
Springfield	85	43	68	+15	0.18	1	23.34	-3.76	2219	+229
Springhill	86	51	69	+16	0.00	0	23.85	-5.84	2480	+456
Union_City	85	50	68	+14	0.00	0	23.77	-4.82	2391	+192

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.      Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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